

12-17

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 205, "LAND USE" OF THE
CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BRUNSWICK TO ESTABLISH AND ADOPT A
NEW ARTICLE XL, "RIPARIAN ZONES", TO CREATE AND ESTABLISH RIPARIAN ZONES AND
REGULATIONS THEREFOR IN THE
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BRUNSWICK**

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of North Brunswick, County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey, that Chapter 205, entitled, Land Use, of the Code of the Township of North Brunswick, be and is hereby amended and supplemented to establish and adopt a new Article XL, Riparian Zones, to create and establish riparian zones and regulations therefor in the Township of North Brunswick as follows:

**ARTICLE XL
Riparian Zones**

§205-182 Intent and Purpose.

- A. The governing body of the Township of North Brunswick finds that riparian lands adjacent to streams, lakes, or other surface water bodies that are adequately vegetated provide an important environmental protection and water resource management benefit. It is necessary to protect and maintain the beneficial character of riparian areas by implementing specifications for the establishment, protection, and maintenance of vegetation along the surface water bodies within the jurisdiction of the Township of North Brunswick, consistent with the interest of landowners in making reasonable economic use of parcels of land that include such designated areas. The purpose of this Article is to designate riparian zones, and to provide for land use regulation therein in order to protect the streams, lakes, and other surface water bodies of the Township of North Brunswick and to comply with NJAC 7:15-5.25(G)3 which requires municipalities to adopt regulations to protect the water quality of watercourses, reservoirs, lakes, and other significant water resources within the Township of North Brunswick; to protect the riparian and aquatic ecosystems of the Township of North Brunswick; to provide for the environmentally sound use of the land resources of the Township of North Brunswick, and to complement existing state, regional, county, and municipal stream corridor protection and management regulations and initiatives.

The specific purpose and intent of this Article is to:

- (1) Restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the water resources of the Township of North Brunswick;
- (2) Prevent excessive nutrients, sediment, and organic matter, as well as biocides and other pollutants, from reaching surface waters by optimizing opportunities for filtration, deposition, absorption, adsorption, plant uptake, biodegradation, and denitrification, which occur when stormwater runoff is conveyed through vegetated buffers as stable, distributed flow prior to reaching receiving waters;
- (3) Provide for shading of the aquatic environment so as to moderate temperatures, retain more dissolved oxygen, and support a healthy assemblage of aquatic flora and fauna;